NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

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Two Million Members in 1936

Congress membership promises to reach a new high level this year. Reports received in the National Office show that the total paid membership of the National Congress for the first quarter of the current fiscal year is more than 12 percent greater than for the same period of 1934.

According to our national membership chairman, Miss Mary England, unusually active membership work is in progress in most states and the outlook is most encouraging for attainment of the national membership goal, "Two Million Members in 1936." With more than thirty million children in school, this would seem a very conservative estimate of the number of persons interested in educating America's future citizens.

Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the National Congress will meet in Washington, D. C., January 16, 17, and 19. The Board of Directors of the National Parent-Teacher Magazine will meet on Saturday, January 18, and members of the Executive Committee who are also members of the Board will attend this meeting.

The Executive Committee consists of the following members:

Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, Mrs. Hamilton Shaffer, Mrs. Noyes Darling Smith, Mrs. A. B. Shuttleworth, Dr. A. F. Harman, Mrs. C. H. Thorpe, Mrs. M. P. Summers, Mrs. Raymond Binford, Mrs. Simon S. Lapham, Mrs. Hugh Bradford, J. W. Faust, Dr. William McKinley Robinson, Mrs. A. H. Reeve.

General Secretary

Mr. John T. Webner, General Secretary, concluded his service with the Congress on October 31. Mr. Webner plans to re-enter the teaching service; our good wishes go with him.

Summer Round-Up Committee to Plan 1937 Campaign

Plans for the 1937 Summer Round-Up Campaign were discussed by the National Advisory Committee on the Round-Up, led by Dr. Lillian R. Smith, National Chairman, and Miss Ruth Bottomly, Summer Round-Up Secretary, at its annual meeting in New York on November 14. This committee, which plans each campaign more than a year in advance, is composed of the following nationally known health workers:

Dr. W. W. Bauer, *Director, Bureau of Health and Public Instruction, American Medical Association;* Mrs. Eleanor Brown Merrill, *Associate Director, National Society for the Prevention of Blindness;* Dr. Carl E. Buck, *Field Director, American Public Health Association;* Katherine Lenroot, *Chief, Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor;* Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, *Surgeon-General, U. S. Public Health Service;* Dr. William De Kleine, *Director of Medical and Health Services, American Red Cross;* Dr. Frances I. Gaw, *Chairman, Mental Hygiene, National Congress of Parents and Teachers;* Dr. Margaret Irving Handy, *American Academy of Pediatrics;* Mrs. William Hayes, *Chairman, Exceptional Child, National Congress of Parents and Teachers;* Dr. William A. Howe, *Secretary-Treasurer, American Association of School Physicians;* Dr. Harold H. Mitchell, *School Medical Advisor, Freeport, Long Island;* Dr. Lon W. Morrey, *Supervisor, Bureau of Public Relations, American Dental Association;* Miss Mary E. Murphy, *Chairman, Child Hygiene, National Congress of Parents and Teachers;* Mr. J. E. Rogers, *Secretary, Department of School Health and Physical Education, National Education Association;* Dr. James Frederick Rogers, *Consultant in Hygiene, Office of Education, U. S. Department of the Interior;* Dr. C. C. Slemons, *State and Provincial Health Authorities of North America;* Dr. George S. Stevenson, *Director, Division on Community Clinics, National Committee for Mental Hygiene;* Miss Louise Strachan, *Director, Child Health Education, National Tuberculosis Association;* Miss Betty C. Wright, *Executive Secretary, American Federation of Organizations for the Hard of Hearing;* Mrs. B. F. Langworthy and Mrs. M. P. Summers.

Since the close of the 1935 Round-Up on November 1, the Summer Round-Up office has been a busy place with its workers engrossed with the thousands of reports of the work done by local units during the campaign. Miss Bottomly reports that the response of local units has been most gratifying and that a high percentage of them are sending in a report. These reports will be compiled and the results included in the annual report.

Registration for the 1936 campaign will be open January 1.

The 1936 pamphlet setting forth the program for next year's Round-Up has been sent out to the states and local units should secure a copy from their state chairman.

CONGRESS BULLETIN

The NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN *is published each month by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers for the purpose of supplying state board members with current information about the activities of the National Congress and the state branches.*

Individual state board members are entitled to receive the BULLETIN *direct from the National Office upon payment of the mailing cost of 20 cents a year.*

Legislation

Mrs. Mary T. Bannerman, Legislation Chairman, in a recent letter to her state chairmen, urges them to enlist the utmost support of "every district, every council, and every local association," for the Federal Food and Drug Bill (Copeland S. 5) and the bill to abolish compulsory block-booking and blind-selling of motion pictures (Neely S. 3012—Pettengill H. R. 6472).

A statement on each of these items was inclosed, outlining why the bill is needed, what the bill provides, present status, and suggestions on what to do to enlist support.

Mrs. Bannerman points out that at the close of the coming session of the United States Congress, all bills will die. If the Food and Drug Bill which has already been passed by the Senate is not passed by the House at the next session, it will have to be reintroduced and go through the entire legislative mill again. The present situation is more favorable for this bill than at any other time during the past 20 years. Parent-teacher associations should unite with other organizations supporting this bill to make the final hurdle.

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A State Parent Education Council was formed in Colorado in October. Dr. Velma Spaulding, of the Denver Tuberculosis Council, was elected president, and Mrs. A. B. Shuttleworth, Fourth Vicepresident of the National Congress, vicepresident.

National Committees at Work

Founders Day—February 17

Mrs. Fred M. Raymond, National Chairman of Founders Day, has recently sent her state chairmen a collection of valuable program material for use in planning for the observance of Founders Day, February 17. Included were a reprint from the *California Parent-Teacher* of an interview with Mrs. Mears on the early days of the Congress, copies presented by the California Congress; a complete set of pageants; and a list of songs suitable for Founders Day. Three new pageants are listed this year—The Birthday Cake, the Founders Day Program, and the Gift of the Founders. The latter includes the Bouquet, which was presented at the Miami Convention.

The *National Parent-Teacher Magazine* will publish in January and February, 1936, articles covering the activities of the Congress during the administration of two former National Presidents, Mrs. Schoff and Mrs. Higgins, and one on the work of Mrs. Mears. Mrs. Raymond points out that the articles published in the Magazine last year in the issues of December, January, and February may well be used as source material for program and radio talks. She reports that the Birthday Gift last year was nearly $1,000 greater than in 1934.

A mimeographed list of Founders Day program material is available free from the National Office.

Homemaking Chairman

The many friends of Dr. Adelaide Steele Baylor, our Homemaking Chairman, will be interested to know that on October 31, she retired as Chief of the Home Economics Education Service in the Vocational Division of the U. S. Office of Education. Dr. Baylor will now devote much of her time to writing. She has served as Chief of the Bureau since January 1, 1923.

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The National Congress had an exhibit at the American Dental Association Convention, November 4-8, at New Orleans, Louisiana.

International Relations

Not for 20 years has there been such an atmosphere of anxiety as is now filling our friends around the world with dark forebodings. Faced with such possible upheaval of economic conditions, such vast problems of neutrality, more than ever do we see the need for just the type of effort which our organization may make. The situation demands that we should not only *study* peace and *work* for peace, but that we should *live* peace; and that is the hardest task of the three. It is easy to attend great forums and conferences, circulate petitions, lend ready—and not always thoughtful—support to legislation urged upon us; but it is quite another matter to be on friendly terms with our foreign neighbors at home, to try to understand the point of view gained in their far-away homes, and to help them, in no spirit of patronage, to see the advantages which may lie in the ways of the new and strange land to which they have come. We sweep their children into the great machine of our public education, where they quickly gain a veneer of "Americanism," only to go home with a contempt for the old folkways of their parents and a sense of rebellion against their authority. This, more than any other factor, leads to the condition made evident by recent studies, that the great majority of our youthful criminal class is recruited from the American-born children of foreign-born parents.

Let us, in our parent-teacher associations—which serve the children of all the nations in our vast melting-pot—make it our especial aim to draw into friendly relations and active participation the citizens of all the nationalities represented in our communities, through a program which, centering around the object of our common interest, the children, offers no ground for dissension but can unite us all in striving toward the objective of the National Congress — better homes, better schools and better communities in which we all may live as "good neighbors." — MRS. A. H. REEVE, *National Chairman, Committee on International Relations.*

PARENT-TEACHER RADIO FORUM

N.B.C.—WJZ Blue Network

Wednesday, 2:30-3:00 p.m., E.S.T.

Sponsored by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, the University of Chicago, and the National Broadcasting Company

January 8

Shaping Character — Howard M. LeSourd, Professor, Religious Education, Boston University.

January 15

Living Safely in a Dangerous Age —Albert W. Whitney, Vicepresident for Education, National Safety Council, New York City.

January 22

Know Your Government — Louis Brownlow, Lecturer in Political Science, University of Chicago.

January 29

Citizenship—Its Opportunities and Limitations—Walter Millard, Field Secretary, National Municipal League, New York City.

NOTE: Mimeographed copies of these radio talks, after delivery, may be secured from the National Office, price 5 cents each. A list of speakers and program topics for the three months' period ending January 29, 1936, will be sent free upon request. Inclose a stamped self-adressed envelope.

School Education Chairman to Hawaii

Miss Charl O. Williams, School Education Chairman, will sail for Honolulu on December 20, making the trip in connection with her duties as President of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. While in Hawaii, she will speak at a meeting arranged by the Hawaii Congress.

Correction

The name of Mrs. William Kletzer, of Oregon, should have been listed in the Legislation Study Committee announced in last month's BULLETIN instead of Dr. William T. Sanger.

SCHOOL BOY SAFETY PATROLS

In response to numerous inquiries concerning the stand of the National Congress on school boy safety patrols, Mrs. B. F. Langworthy has issued the following statement:

"The National Congress is now, as it has been in the past, a staunch supporter of the school boy safety patrol movement.

"It takes the stand, however, that these boys should not assume adult responsibility in directing traffic.

"The National Board at its Chicago meeting adopted a resolution protesting against the custom prevailing in certain cities of using school boy safety patrols in place of traffic officers.

"The Congress believes that the proper function of the patrol is to aid in the direction and education of pupil pedestrians."

Child Labor Day

Child Labor Day, 1936, will be observed the week-end of January 25, 26, 27. Consideration of child labor is of special importance this year for, following the removal of child labor restrictions under the codes, employment of children is again increasing.

Information regarding present child labor conditions and the observance of Child Labor Day can be secured from the National Child Labor Committee, 419 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Publicity or Procedure Book?

The perennial question of scrapbooks becomes a matter of keen interest at this time of year. Most local units find it valuable to compile some type of scrapbook each year, as a permanent, and fairly complete record of the year's work.

Publicity recordbooks are compiled by thousands of local publicity committees, many states supplying standard covers for them.

Suggestions for compiling a publicity recordbook are given in the *Publicity Manual.*

Procedure books have grown in popularity in the past two or three years. A mimeographed list of suggestions for making a procedure book will be sent free by the National Office upon request.

History books are highly esteemed records. Every local unit will find it valuable to compile one or more of these scrapbooks, according to the plan set up in the state.

Notes and Announcements

The State Presidents' Conference at its Chicago meeting appointed the following special committees which will report at the Milwaukee Convention: *Budgets,* Mrs. Neil Haig, Chairman, Mrs. James Fitts Hill, Mrs. Howard H. Hall; *District Organization,* Mrs. Louis R. Fulton, Chairman, Mrs. Emmet C. Stopher, Mrs. Scott Wood.

The state board of managers of the New Mexico Congress of Parents and Teachers recently presented Miss Alice Sowers, Parent Education Specialist, with a life membership in the state Congress.

The International Council for Exceptional Children will hold its Fourteenth Annual Convention at Chicago, February 20-22, 1936. Mrs. Langworthy has accepted an invitation to speak on the program.

The annual February meeting of the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, February 22-27, at the St. Louis Municipal Auditorium. Mrs. B. F. Langworthy will represent the National Congress at this meeting.

The California Congress has recently published a program leaflet for its local units, which may be ordered from the California Congress of Parents and Teachers, 1200 Pershing Square Building, 448 South Hill St., Los Angeles, price 10 cents a copy.

News From State Branches

California California has initiated a new program of Consumer Education, which has gained impetus through the cooperation of the Adult Division of the State Department of Education. A series of monthly articles on the subject will appear in the *California Parent-Teacher*, official state organ, the first appearing in the September number. Another project will be the establishment of five experimental centers throughout the state. There has also been prepared a program for local study groups, consisting of eight study outlines.

The first unit for local study groups has already been prepared. It gives facts on the subject of household linens and is designed to aid in more intelligent buying. Desirable weights, sizes and strength, and care are topics included in the study, together with hints to the buyer and a bibliography.

New Hampshire Exhibits at the state convention next spring will be divided into three divisions as follows:

1. Scrapbooks
2. Posters
3. Table exhibits

Every local unit in the state is being invited to have a part in the exhibit.

New Mexico A Raton paper in an editorial welcoming the state convention to the city has this message which should be of interest to fathers: "Mainly, *unfortunately*, the state P.T.A. convention is a gathering of earnest women, mothers of children in the public schools. The word 'unfortunately' is used because the business of taking interest in school, in curriculum, in teachers and teaching, in child welfare is just as much the business of fathers as mothers." The prophecy is made that "some day fathers will take more interest in this fine association and its influence on both education and future citizenship."

Texas A very attractive yearbook of the Beaumont City Council of Parent-Teacher Associations, printed by the Beaumont Highschool printing department, has just been received in the National Office. It contains a directory of officers and committee chairmen of the state and National Congress, the Jefferson County Council, the Fourth District, and of the local associations comprising the city council; a calendar of meetings; a list of special days and weeks; dates of business meetings of the council; the month by month program outline of each local unit for the coming year; a directory of city school officials; and the council by-laws.

Hawaii "At the present time we have 54 affiliated units on 5 islands with a total membership of 8,567. This year the units have been divided into groups according to size with the idea of stimulating membership. Group A has 8 units with memberships from 301 up; Group B, 8 units having 201 up to 300 members; Group C, 16 units with 101 up to 200; Group D, 9 units having from 51 up to 100 members, and Group E, 14 units with 50 or fewer members.

"Our state office is in the Library of Hawaii Building, Honolulu, Island of Oahu. All state officers are Honolulu people, but I have appointed 17 people from the 4 other Islands on our 20 committees.

"We do not publish a territory bulletin but use one or two pages in the *Hawaii Education Association Review* which is distributed free to all the local unit presidents.

"Very little has been accomplished along the lines of parent education study groups. Our immediate past president is in charge of that this year and perhaps more will be done.

"Only 11 of our 54 local unit presidents are women. Our problem is to get more women active in the work. While the majority of our officers and chairmen are haole (white), the majority of our members are Japanese, Chinese, and Portuguese."—Mrs. Richard C. Wilson, *President, Hawaii Congress.*

Illinois The Illinois Congress, under the auspices of its homemaking committee, will hold a meeting each month for all homemaking chairmen in the state, and other members who are interested. The current article in the Progressive Home series, appearing in the *National Parent-Teacher Magazine*, will be discussed, and during the year experts are to talk on subjects such as "Nutrition of Family," "Health in the Home," "Character Training in the Home," and "The Need for Recreational Activities of the Family."

The state homemaking chairman will meet with district and council chairmen for an hour, then with local chairmen for an hour, before the meeting opens for the general session.

North Carolina During statewide membership enrolment month, October 15-November 15, every effort is being made to reach a goal of 100,000 members. Special emphasis will be placed on enlisting the interest of fathers and on bringing every home into membership.

Welcome

New State Presidents

Florida—Mrs. Clinton F. Parvin, Manatee.

Maine—Mrs. Noel C. Little, 8 College Street, Brunswick.

Mississippi—Mrs. I. A. Rosenbaum, 2100 23rd Avenue, Meridian.

New Mexico—Mrs. P. S. Myers, Raton.

New York—Mrs. Ralph Brodie, One East Park Street, Albion.

Oklahoma—Mrs. George E. Calvert, 1101 East 11th Street, Oklahoma City.

Vermont—Mrs. L. L. Mounce, South Woodstock.

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Iowa Several districts of the Iowa Congress are sending parent-teacher speakers to county teachers institutes, which are held pretty generally throughout the state in the fall. Some superintendents give only a few minutes on these programs; others allow up to 45 minutes.

Last year in Central District, 2,315 teachers in 17 counties heard these parent-teacher speakers at an expense to the district of $14.83. Inquiries from teachers in schools where there were no Congress units and several requests for organization material proved that these contacts were worthwhile.

Missouri Since 1915 there has been a Parent-Teacher Department in the Missouri State Teachers Association with a department meeting held each year.

Georgia "Parent Cooperation in the Georgia Program for the Improvement of Instruction in Public Schools" is the title of a study program recently published by the Georgia Congress. This program was prepared by a committee of the state Congress studying with the classes in curriculum revision at the University of Georgia during the past summer.

Wyoming Wyoming Congress cooperated with the State Education Association in publishing a bulletin entitled "The Enlarged Local School District as an Administrative Means of Equalizing Educational Opportunity." The Sheridan P.T.A. has held a course on the National Correspondence Course, "Our Public Schools," led by the City Superintendent of Schools.

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BOOK WEEK will be observed November 17-23. The slogan is "Reading for Fun."